



READING ROAD MAPS

Using the South East Australia and Australia Touring Map (kindly donated by the NRMA) provided, work with the Leaders and older Cubs to find the answers to the following questions. Use the map of South East Australia for Questions 1–13, and the map of the whole of Australia for Questions 14–18.

Introduce the basic map concepts using the Map Legend

1	Locate a Freeway	Refer to Map Legend
	What is the Route Number of the Freeway you located?	Refer to Map Legend
2	Locate a Major Highway (Through Route)	Refer to Map Legend
3	Locate a minor road (Minor Connector)	Refer to Map Legend
4	Locate a railway line	Refer to Map Legend
5	Locate a State Border	Refer to Map
	What does a State Border look like on the ground?	Often, it's nothing special at all—just like any other piece of ground. But it may be a river (<i>cf.</i> NSW/Vic) or an agricultural control (fruit fly; tick; plant) check point (not shown on this map).

How do we use this kind of map? (Use the Map Index to locate places.) What do we use it for? (Use the Map Legend to differentiate between road surfaces.) What are some of its limitations?

6	Locate Canberra and Goulburn	Refer to Index M9 and M8
	How many ways could you travel (by road, more or less directly) to Goulburn from Canberra?	Several Directly, via Yass, via Gunning, via Bungendore/Tarago etc.
	Which is the best (surface) road?	Refer to Legend and Map Federal Highway
	What is the distance between Canberra and Goulburn, via the most direct (road) route?	Refer to Distance Chart 98 km
	Which road travels through the most hilly country?	Cannot really tell from this map
	Can you tell if there are roadworks in progress (<i>i.e.</i> possible delays) on any of these roads?	No. Sometimes a map (not this one) will include roads that are 'Under Construction'.

Use the Distance Chart to quickly work out the road distance between two towns/cities

7	Locate Sydney	Refer to Index O7
	How far is it by road from Canberra to Sydney (via the most direct path, according to the map)?	Refer to Distance Chart 281 km
8	Locate Forbes and Tamworth	Refer to Index L7 and N5
	How far is it by road from Forbes to Tamworth (via the most direct path, according to the map)?	Refer to Distance Chart 491 km

Use distances marked on the Map to work out distances that may not necessarily be the most direct between two places

9	Locate Condobolin	Refer to Index K7
	How far is it from Forbes to Condobolin?	Refer to Legend and Map 103 km via Minor road, or 132 km via Major Road(s)

Use the Scale in the Legend when no other distance indicators are available

10	Locate Byrock and Gongolgon	Refer to Index J4
	How far is it from Byrock to Gongolgon?	Refer to Scale in Legend ~60 km
Notice State Boundaries		

11	Locate Cradock	Refer to Index B6
	In what State is Cradock?	Refer to Map SA

Note the orientation of the Map (Compass Rose) and the ability to identify direction in terms of simple compass bearings

12	Locate Ararat and Castlemaine	Refer to Index F11 and H11
	In what direction is Castlemaine from Ararat? (In what direction would you be travelling if you were going directly from Ararat to Castlemaine?)	Note Map Orientation East
	Would you want to be driving from Ararat to Castlemaine at sunrise?	Probably not. You'd be driving with the sun in your eyes!
13	Locate Moree and Narrabri	Refer to Index M3 and M4
	In what direction is Moree from Narrabri? (In what direction would you be travelling if you were going directly from Narrabri to Moree?)	Note Map Orientation North

Use the smaller scale (1:6,500,000) map to look at a larger area. Note that the Name Index now identifies in which State a town or city is located.

14	Locate Zanthus	Refer Index C6
	In which State is Zanthus	Refer Index or Map WA
15	Locate Laverton and Warburton Community	Refer Index C5 and D5 WA
	How far is it from Laverton to Warburton Community?	Refer Map 691 km
	What kind (standard) of road links the two?	Refer Map and Legend Unsealed Minor Connecting Road

Introduce the concept of (Parallels of) Latitude and (Meridians of) Longitude. They serve to locate this map on the Globe. Note that we don't really need this information to travel between places on this map, but if we wanted to travel to somewhere on a different map, we would need something to 'tie the two maps together'.

16	Locate Longreach	Refer Index G4 Qld
	At what Latitude (Parallel) is Longreach?	Refer to Map 23° 26' 30'' The Tropic of Capricorn
17	Locate Lithgow	Refer Index J6 NSW
	At what Longitude (Meridian) is Lithgow?	150° E
18	Locate Rabbit Flat?	Refer Index D4 NT
	At what Latitude and Longitude is Rabbit Flat?	20° S / 130° E

Mention the fact that we have been working with a Road Map, used when we are *driving* somewhere. The scale used is appropriate for the distances we travel in cars today. If we were walking, however, we would probably use quite a different sort of map. What would we be interested in if we were walking? How far could we walk in a day or two? What would be an appropriate scale for such a map?